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MAKHICHEVAN' ASSR MEDICAL SERVICE

A. Ismailov Minister of Health Wakhichevan' ASSR

In 1903, Bol'shaya Entsiklopedia described the medical facilities of Makhichevan' ASSR in some ten vords, "Dispensary with four beds, two doctors, two surgeon's assistants, and one bed for maternity use." Much progress has been made since then, and today a medium sized kolkhoz -- for example the Megram Kolkhoz -- has better health facilities than the whole Republic had 45 years ago.

A very satisfactory report on medical facilities in this ASSR was made part of the celebrations of the anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Today there are 19 municipal and rural hospitals and four maternity homes, with a total of 557 beds. In addition, there are 6 applicatory dispensaries and polyclinics, 7 malaria and tropical disease stations, 3 sanitation epidemiological stations, 6 dermato-veneral dispensaries and stations, 5 gyneco-pediatrical consultation offices, 14 homes for infants' care, several medical facilities for students, 17 rural ambulatory dispensaries, 48 surgeon's assistants and obstetrical stations, and 40 trachematosis stations. There are also 18 spothecary points to service the various medical facilities, ASSR populations also have specialized aid. All these institutions are operated by 116 doctors and 353 surgeon's assistants, midwives, and nurses. The 1949 budget for medical aid and services will be approximately 13 million rubles.

Since Makhichevan' ASSR is primarily an agricultural state, it is natural that the beet wedleal aid should be found in rural communities Thus, all the large kolkhozes and Sovkhozes, such as Hogram, Sadarak, Taydini, Vanand, Kivrag, Abrakunis, Dzhagry, Aza, Paraga, and others, have excellent medical facilities.

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The Soviet reign brought with it a program for elimination of trachoma, and other diseases caused by helminths. Much has been accomplished to decrease the number of people suffering from typhas and malaria.

Many of the medical workers of the ASSR, among them Abbasov, Kazaryan, Guseynov, Galustyan, and others, have achieved much in the way of improved medical aid to the peoples of Wakhichevan' ASSR.

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